

DFV



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PATENTS, TRADEMARKS, COPYRIGHTS & UNFAIR COMPETITION

April 21, 2006

Commissioner For Patents
Office of Initial Patent Examination
Customer Service Center
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Our File: SONYJP 3.3-1031
Appln. No. 10/532,546
Filing Date: April 22, 2005
Group Art Unit: 2644

Dear Sir:

We are enclosing herewith a copy of the filing receipt and executed Declaration for the above-identified patent application.

Please note that the title should read --Reproducing Method and Reproducing Apparatus for Audio Signal-- not "Audio Signal Reproducing Method and Reproducing Apparatus".

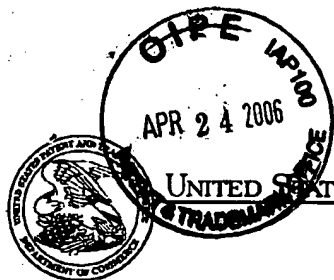
Kindly issue a corrected filing receipt for the above-identified application as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

LERNER, DAVID, LITTENBERG,
KRUMHOLZ & MENTLIK, LLP

ROBERT B. COHEN
Reg. No. 32,768

RBC/tf
Enclosures

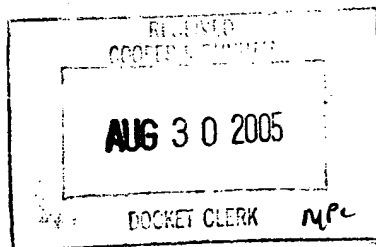


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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/532,546	04/22/2005	2644	1100	7217/71164	12	13	4

23432
 COOPER & DUNHAM, LLP
 1185 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
 NEW YORK, NY 10036



CONFIRMATION NO. 3808
 FILING RECEIPT



OC000000016794146

Date Mailed: 08/19/2005

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

Tetsunori Itabashi, Kanagawa, JAPAN;
 Kohei Asada, Kanagawa, JAPAN;

Power of Attorney: The patent practitioners associated with Customer Number 23432.

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/JP03/13574 10/23/2003.

Foreign Applications

JAPAN 2002-356139 12/09/2002

Projected Publication Date: 11/24/2005

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

Title

Audio signal reproducing method and reproducing apparatus

Preliminary Class

381

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

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Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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503 P1402 1200
Attorney Docket 7217/71164

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

REPRODUCING METHOD AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS FOR AUDIO SIGNAL

the specification of which
(check one)

_____ is attached hereto.

X was filed on October 23, 2003 as

Application Serial No. PCT/JP03/13574

and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Claimed

<u>Number</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
<u>P2002-356139</u>	<u>Japan</u>	<u>December 9, 2002</u>	<u>X</u>	_____
<u>PCT/JP03/13574</u>	<u>WIPO</u>	<u>October 23, 2003</u>	<u>X</u>	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Declaration and Power of Attorney

Page 2

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States Application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>Application Serial No.</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

And I hereby appoint Jay H. Maioli, Reg. No. 27,213; Donald S. Dowden, Reg. No. 20,701; William E. Pelton, Reg. No. 25,702; Peter J. Phillips, Reg. No. 29,691; Gerald W. Griffin, Reg. No. 18,886; Ivan S. Kavrukov, Reg. No. 25,161; Christopher C. Dunham, Reg. No. 22,031; Norman H. Zivin, Reg. No. 25,385; John P. White, Reg. No. 28,678; and Robert D. Katz, Reg. No. 30,141; and each and all of them, all c/o Cooper & Dunham, 1185 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036 (Tel. (212) 278-0400), my attorneys, each with full power of substitution and revocation, to receive the patent, to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and to file any International Applications which are based thereon under the provisions of the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

Please address all communications, and direct all telephone calls, regarding this application to

JAY H. MAIOLI
Cooper & Dunham LLP
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10036
Tel. (212) 278-0400

Reg. No. 27,213

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of sole or
First joint inventor Tetsunori Itabashi
Inventor's signature Tetsunori Itabashi
Citizenship Japan Date of Signature March 9, 2005
Residence Kanagawa, Japan
Post Office Address c/o Sony Corporation, 7-35, Kitashinagawa 6-chome, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo
141-0001 Japan

Attorney Docket _____

Declaration and Power of Attorney

Page 3

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Inventor's signature Kohei Asada
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141-0001 Japan

Full name of sole or
Third joint inventor _____
Inventor's signature _____
Citizenship _____ Date of Signature _____
Residence _____
Post Office Address _____

Full name of sole or
Fourth joint inventor _____
Inventor's signature _____
Citizenship _____ Date of Signature _____
Residence _____
Post Office Address _____

Full name of sole or
Fifth joint inventor _____
Inventor's signature _____
Citizenship _____ Date of Signature _____
Residence _____
Post Office Address _____